

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An apparatus for measuring the lifetime of an excited state in a specimen is disclosed. The apparatus comprises an electromagnetic energy source (1) that emits light (3) of one wavelength. Also provided are a means (5) for dividing the light (3) into at least a first and a second partial light beam (7, 9) and an intermediate element (23) in at least one partial light beam to influence the transit time.

FIG. 1